Administration Rules, 1984" to the Central Government for seeking the approval of the latter to ensure removal of exploitation of the Tribals and also to secure better administration in the Scheduled Areas; and

(b) if so, by when the necessary approval is likelly to be accorded to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have forwarded the Madhya Pradesh Anusuchit Kshetra Prashashan Viniyam to the Government of India for obtaining the assent of the President.

(b) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India. It is not possible to indicate by what time the approval will be accorded.

Recovery of electricity dues by NDMC from ex-MPs

1541. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NDMC has taken steps to recover arrears of electricity bills from the Members of Parliament who have retired;

(b) whether Government are aware that in demanding payment of arrears of electricity bills, NDMC does not care to adjust the deposit made by the Members at the time of giving electricity connection and thus putting ex-MPs to great inconvenience;

(c) if so, whether NDMC authorities will be instructed to adjust in normal course the amount deposited and then claim the arrears; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) While demanding payment of electric/water charges the amount of security deposit is not adjusted. This amount is adjusted after disconnection or at the time of making final payment.

Death of a woman in Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital

1542. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 26 year old house-wife of Bapa Nagar, Karol Bagh, Delhi died in Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital on 14th April, 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that in her dying declaration she held her husband and in-laws responsible for ill-treating her for dowry;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether any action has been taken by the police basing on her dying declaration; and

(e) if so, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In her dying declaration, she has stated that she was married 10 years ago. However, her in-laws were not happy with her due to inadequate dowry and were harassing her for bringing Rs. 5,000 from her parents. She has stated that she was being ill-treated by her husband, mother-in-law, brother-in law, and sister-in-law due to which she had set herself on fire on 9th April, 1987.

(d) and (e) A case under section 498-A/306/34 IPC has been registered at the Police Station Karol Bagh on 9th April, 1987. Her husband has already been arrested.

Legislation to protect agriculture workers

1543. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any legislation in any of the States to protect the rights and interests of the agricultural workers; if so, the names of the States;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to enact a Central Legislation for the agricultural workers; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps the Central Government have taken so far in this regard; if not, what are the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Kerala has enacted a legislation for agricultural workers; namely, Kerala Agricultural Workers Act, 1974.

(b) and (c) The matter regarding enactment of Central Legislation for the Agricultural Workers was considered in various forums. Due to absence of unanimaity on the issue, it was decided to leave it to the State Governments to enact a legislation for agricultural workers. The State Governments/Union Territories were advised accordingly in September, 1982.

Business of STC and MMTC in International market

1544. SHRI SAGAR RAYKA:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether STC and MMTC are doing any business in the international market where neither import to India nor export from India is involved; if so, what is the turn-over of these Corporations in such international trade;

(b) whether it is proposed to develop such type of international business by these Corporations; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government feel that such a trading activity would help boost our export trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The turnover of STC and MMTC in this type of international trade in 1986-87 amounted to approximately Rs. 15 crores and Rs. 8.5 crores respectively.

(b) and (c) These types of transactions, referred to as off-shore trade, do not involve any exports from or imports into India. Growth in this form of trade will depend upon international market situation, business opportunities available, and commercial benefits assessed in specific deals. The profits earned from these augment the foreign exchange earnings of the country. This form of trade also helps establishing of new market channels which can be used for promotive our exports, subsequently.

C.B.I. raid at Swadeshi Textile Mill Pondicherry

1545. SHRI SAGAR RAYKA:

SHRI CHIMANPHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C.B.I. has recently raided the office of N.T.C.'s Swadeshi Textile Mill, Pondicherry and the offices of D.G.S. and D for sub-standard supplies to defence; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what are the names of the officers who have been apprehended in this connection and what are the charges against them?